IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9, 11, 14-23, 25-29, 31-40 and 42-48, without prejudice to or disclaimer of subject matter.

Please amend Claims 3, 8, 12, 24 and 41, to read as follows.

1-2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) An image scanning apparatus according to claim [[1]] 8, wherein said controller moves said image sensing unit in a direction opposite to a sub-scanning direction a particular distance after the relative movement is temporarily stopped.

4-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) An image scanning apparatus comprising:

a movable image sensing unit that scans at least one document image arranged on a document plate while moving relative to the at least one document image; and

a controller that controls the relative movement of said image sensing unit such that when plural document images arranged on the document plate are scanned, said controller moves said image sensing unit a particular distance in a direction opposite to a sub-scanning direction after completion of scanning one of the plural document images and before starting scanning a next of the plural document images,

wherein said controller moves said image sensing unit in the direction opposite to the sub-scanning direction when a larger distance is needed between the one and next document images to accelerate said image sensing unit to a scanning speed.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Original) An image scanning apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the particular distance is calculated from at least one of a scanning speed, a scanning resolution, a space between documents in a sub-scanning direction, and a minimum distance needed to accelerate said image sensing unit to the scanning speed.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Currently Amended) An image scanning apparatus according to claim [[9]] 8, wherein said controller moves said image sensing unit to the home position when an operation mode requires that calibration data be acquired each time a document image is scanned.

13. (Original) An image scanning apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the document images are a plurality of frames of images formed on a photographic film.

14-23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A control program stored on a computer-readable medium for controlling an image scanning apparatus to scan one or more document images arranged on a document plate while moving an image sensing unit relative to the document images, the control program comprising the step of:

controlling the relative movement of the image sensing unit such that the image sensing unit is moved a particular distance in a direction opposite to a sub-scanning direction after completion of scanning a first of the document images arranged on the document plate and before scanning a next of the document images,

wherein the image sensing unit is moved relatively backwardly when a larger distance is needed between the one and next document images to accelerate the image sensing unit to a scanning speed.

25-29. (Cancelled)

30. (Original) A computer-readable storage medium on which a control program according to claim 24 is stored.

31-40. (Cancelled)

41. (Currently Amended) A scanning method comprising the steps of:

scanning a plurality of document images arranged on a document plate while moving an image sensing unit relative to the plurality of document images; and

controlling the relative movement of the image sensing unit such that the image sensing unit is moved a particular distance in a direction opposite to a sub-scanning direction after completion of scanning a first of the plurality of document images arranged on the document plate and before scanning a next of the plurality of document images,

wherein the image sensing unit is moved relatively backwardly when a larger distance is needed between the one and next document images to accelerate the image sensing unit to a scanning speed.

42-48. (Cancelled)